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20 November 1956

K. Mi. Kilou

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM: Assistant to the Director

During the question period at an off-the-record private dinner in the Council Room of the Sheraton-Carlton Hotel last evening, Mr. Dulles was asked by David Lawrence what he, Dulles, thought of the defector from the Soviet, a former Red intelligence officer, Khokhlov, who had been on "Meet The Press" last Sunday. Mr. Lawrence remarked, with his question, that Khokhlov had been asked "the \$64 question" on TV.

Mr. Dulles said that he did not trust Khokhlov and that he had never fully trusted him. He said that he had doubts about his reliability from the very first and still has them. Khokhlov's bona fides, however, he said, had been "checked by our people" and some of our people say that he is all right and they believe him to be trustworthy. Mr. Dulles continued with the statement that he still has his doubts and that he cautioned "our people to be careful in dealing with Khokhlov."

Mr. Dulles further said that Khokhlov is a queer bird, is very intelligent and sharp, but that he, Dulles, just can't accept him. Ernest Lindley remarked that he had found some feeling of doubt re Khokhlov over at the Defense Department yesterday afternoon.

David Lawrence said that Khokhlov was going back to Europe to work underground. Mr. Dulles said he knew Khokhlov wanted to get back to Europe and that he was a free agent who could go where he wished -- but Dulles still had his doubts about Khokhlov.

STANLEY J. GROGAN

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